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EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

June 9 2003

CWA Local 7214-Duluth and Northern Mn.

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JUN 1 6 2003

FCC - MAILROOM

Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy

Dear Sir

Ussummen Center

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I'm writing you regarding our major employer Qwest and it's filing with the FCC for long distance and allowing it in to this market. (271)

We see this as a very important issue that is going to have a tremendous effect on our union members. We believe that many of our jobs depend on it and any future growth in this company depends on this going through! We also believe it's the right thing to do! This issue has been in process since 1984 when the baby bells were broken up. It has been the carrot that been promised if the company allowed competition into their switches and outside plant. This has been done and then some. Competition is here in the way of cellular and Clec's, the market place has competition and we now need long distance to compete with the competition that is out there and able to now offer both local and long distance to their customers. We need the same.

We represent a large part of rural Minnesota and if this doesn't happen then our customers and workers are going to be left behind! This has been a political football here in Minnesota for many years, in the 90's when times were better we could wait but those times are past and if this doesn't happen soon we in the rural area's of this state will be left behind and Qwest will be squeezed into the roll of a wholesale company. I would appreciate it if you could send me a letter of what ever you do so that I can share it with our local membership.

Sincerely Choole

Darwin Chester 4026 Co. Rd. 138

Barnum Mn. 55707

Legislative Person and President Of Local Retiree Group

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Commissioner Michael J. Copps

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Commissioner Kevin J. Martin

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Chairman Michael K. Powell

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